

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2 and 5/2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph and allowed claims 1, 3, 4, and 5/1. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of several of the pending claims.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that the Examiner lined through two of the documents listed on the Form PTO 1449 attached to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on August 2, 2002. No reason was provided regarding why these two documents were apparently not considered. On November 18, 2002, in response to a request from Applicants' representative, the Examiner contacted the undersigned and indicated that these documents had been considered. Therefore, for convenience, Applicants have enclosed a new Form PTO 1449 listing these two documents (U.S. Patent Application No. 09/869,756 and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/890,950, which has now been published as U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002-0137380). Copies of these two applications were submitted along with the IDS filed August 2, 2002. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate that these two applications were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO 1449.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 to correct typographical and grammatical errors and to reintroduce the "contact terminals" element of claim 1 that was inadvertently omitted by the Amendment filed August 5, 2002. In view of this Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Accordingly, the Section 112, 2nd paragraph rejection of claims 2 and 5/2 should be withdrawn. Also by this Amendment, Applicants have amended Fig. 2 to include reference numeral "10," which is mentioned in the disclosure.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1-5 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 1 and 2 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, because all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment, reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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APPENDIX

Attachment to the Request for Continued Examination and
Amendment filed: December 2, 2002
Application Serial No.: 09/889,007
Attorney Docket No.: 04208.0113

Marked-up version of the amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A card connector comprising:
 - a connector housing having a lower housing and a metal upper housing; [and]
contact terminals arranged on the connector housing to engage with contact pads of an inserted card; and
one or more switches each operated by engagement and disengagement of a pair of metal pieces;
wherein at least one of said one or more switches comprises:
a first contact leaf spring formed on said connector housing, said first contact leaf spring having an engagement portion for engaging with a button of said inserted card when the button is in a first position;
a second contact leaf spring having an engagement portion for engaging with said button of said inserted card when the button is in a second position; and
a contact portion provided on at least one of said first contact leaf spring and said second contact leaf spring for [electrical] electrically connecting said first contact leaf spring to said second contact leaf spring when said button of said inserted card is located in one of the first position and the second position.

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2. (Twice Amended) A card connector according to claim 1, wherein each of said first contact leaf spring and said second contact leaf spring [each are] is a contact leaf spring extending from an end portion of said [upper] connector housing like a cantilevered beam.

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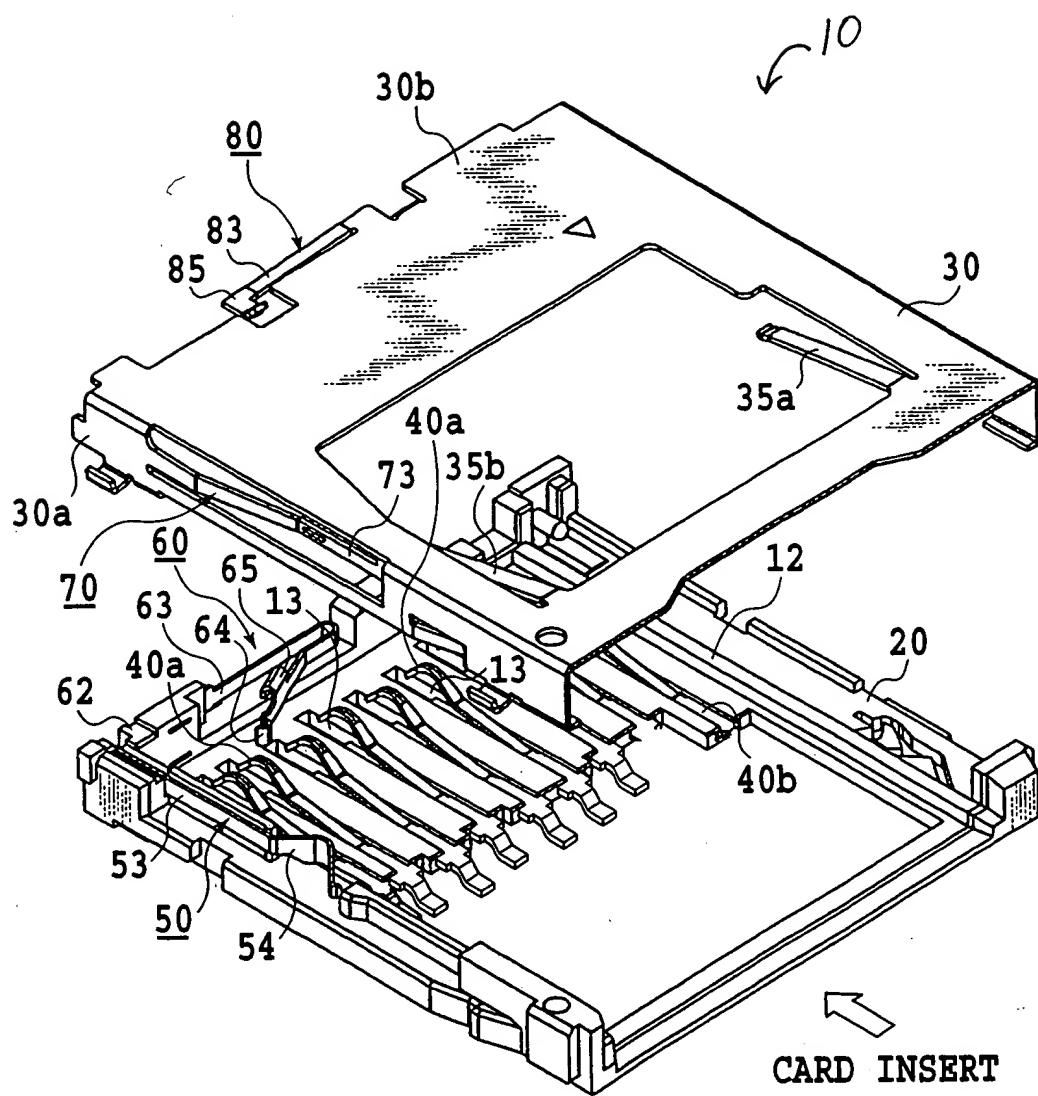


FIG.2